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## **Carson's Office to Host Bi-Annual Sportsmen's Forum in McAlester April 20**

*Community forum about issues affecting sportsmen will be held at  
McAlester Expo Center*

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**Washington, D.C.** - Eastern Oklahoma Congressman Brad Carson (D-OK) announced today that members of his staff will host a community forum for Oklahoma's sportsmen and women in McAlester. The forum will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on April 20, 2004 at the Expo Center, 4500 West Highway 270. It will feature presentations by state and federal game and wildlife experts and an update on what Congressman Carson is doing in Washington to protect 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights and improve sporting traditions in Oklahoma. Attendees will also have the opportunity to participate in a question and answer session with all presenters.

"Protecting 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights and helping to preserve the environment for this and future generations of sportsmen in Eastern Oklahoma are very important to me. That is why my staff is hosting this forum to provide important information about the current status and recent developments affecting sportsmen and women in Oklahoma."

The forum is open to the public and will contain presentations by representatives from The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, U.S. Corp of Engineers, the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife, and several sporting organizations. They will provide information about federal and state public hunting and fishing areas and any developments affecting Oklahoma's sportsmen.

Congressman Carson's staff will also provide an update on federal issues affecting hunters and anglers as well as his work in Congress to protect 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment

rights, sporting traditions, and hunting and fishing grounds. For example, Congressman Carson was a co-sponsor of the Firearms Heritage Protection Act that would prohibit frivolous lawsuits against gun makers, and the Citizens' Self-Defense Act that guarantees Americans the right to use firearms to protect themselves, their families and their property. Other examples include Congressman Carson's support of House Resolution 362 that recognized the important contribution of sportsmen in America and his work to obtain vital funding to protect wildlife and wetland areas.

All community members are encouraged to attend this interesting and informative community forum. Questions may be directed to Congressman Carson's McAlester office at (918) 423-5951.

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